



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Patent and Trademark Office

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SERIAL NUMBER	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
06/889,746	07/28/86	NILSEN	0

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EXAMINER	
CHATMON JR, S	
ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
266	2

DATE MAILED:

07/14/87

This is a communication from the examiner in charge of your application.

COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS

- ☒ This application has been examined ☐ Responsive to communication filed on _____ ☐ This action is made final.

A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire 3 month(s), 0 days from the date of this letter.
Failure to respond within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned. 35 U.S.C. 133

Part I THE FOLLOWING ATTACHMENT(S) ARE PART OF THIS ACTION:

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited by Examiner, PTO-892. | 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice re Patent Drawing, PTO-948. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Art Cited by Applicant, PTO-1449 | 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of informal Patent Application, Form PTO-152 |
| 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Information on How to Effect Drawing Changes, PTO-1474 | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> _____ |

Part II SUMMARY OF ACTION

1. ☒ Claims 1-19 are pending in the application.
Of the above, claims _____ are withdrawn from consideration.
2. ☐ Claims _____ have been cancelled.
3. ☐ Claims _____ are allowed.
4. ☒ Claims 1-19 are rejected.
5. ☐ Claims _____ are objected to.
6. ☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction or election requirement.
7. ☐ This application has been filed with informal drawings which are acceptable for examination purposes until such time as allowable subject matter is indicated.
8. ☐ Allowable subject matter having been indicated, formal drawings are required in response to this Office action.
9. ☐ The corrected or substitute drawings have been received on _____. These drawings are ☐ acceptable;
☐ not acceptable (see explanation).
10. ☐ The ☐ proposed drawing correction and/or the ☐ proposed additional or substitute sheet(s) of drawings, filed on _____, has (have) been ☐ approved by the examiner. ☐ disapproved by the examiner (see explanation).
11. ☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed _____, has been ☐ approved. ☐ disapproved (see explanation). However, the Patent and Trademark Office no longer makes drawing changes. It is now applicant's responsibility to ensure that the drawings are corrected. Corrections **MUST** be effected in accordance with the instructions set forth on the attached letter "INFORMATION ON HOW TO EFFECT DRAWING CHANGES", PTO-1474.
12. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of the claim for priority under 35 U.S.C. 119. The certified copy has ☐ been received ☐ not been received
☐ been filed in parent application, serial no. _____; filed on _____.
13. ☐ Since this application appears to be in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under Ex parte Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.
14. ☐ Other

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1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103 which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

Subject matter developed by another person, which qualifies as prior art only under subsection (f) and (g) of section 102 of this title, shall not preclude patentability under this section where the subject matter and the claimed invention were, at the time the invention was made, owned by the same person or subject to an obligation of assignment to the same person.

2. Claims 1, 4-9, 12, 14-16 and 17-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. In claim 1, for example, the recitation of "voltage conditioning means connected with the power line terminal..." is vague and indefinite. Note that the output voltage is exactly the same as the input voltage, 120 volts, in the absence of the full wave bridge rectifier providing an absolute voltage of one half the input voltage and means including resistor AR₁ diac D₁₁ capacitor CT, ... for adjusting the time constant with a corresponding inverter output voltage adjustment. In claims 17 and 18, the recitation of a tack light system ... being operative to provide a high frequency voltage ..." is vague and indefinite. How can

a track lighting system provide a high frequency voltage in the absence of an inverter?

3. Claims 1-5, 6-10, 11-16 and 17-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 as being unpatentable over Spira et al in view of Kivari and Neumann et al.

The Spira et al reference discloses a high frequency inverter 22, illustrated in Fig. 3, rectifier 21, illustrated in Fig. 5, transmission line 36, illustrated in Fig. 2, and lamp fixtures 40, 41. Further, in column 9, lines 25-34, the Spira et al reference teaches "Although the arrangement of Fig. 4 shows the invention in connection with fluorescent lamps, it should be understood that the invention can be applied to the energization and dimming of any gas discharge lamp. Indeed, the invention can be used to operate and dim incandescent lamp..." and in column 7, lines 13-35, particularly, "Amplitude variation is obtained by delaying the application of the firing signal to thyristors 52 and 53 and thus varying the duty cycle of the inverter. Thus, the conduction time of the thyristors, during one half cycle, is reduced and less voltage is applied to the primary winding 56. The Neumann et al reference discloses a distribution system including a track which permits selective connection thereto at any point along the length of the track by means of a connector member ... powered by 120 volts or 240 volts, column 1, lines 35-70. See Kivari's column 1, lines 4-10, "A main object of the invention .. incan-

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descent lamp adapted for use with ordinary house lighting circuit .. including means for reducing line voltage to a relatively low voltage...." Given the Spira et al specific teaching of an incandescent lamp high frequency circuit without the ballast circuit of Fig. 4, it would be obvious to use Kivari's incandescent lamp combination in lieu of ballast-lamp fixture 40. It would be equally as obvious to use the Neumann et al track power distribution means in lieu of the Spira et al transmission line distribution means 36. Note that the track means 11 of Neumann et al and track means DT of the instant case provide only mechanical support for the electrical conductors, the lamps, the sockets, ... etc. and that the operation frequency is immaterial to the track support since a track support means will support any frequency operating lamp or even a DC operating lamp.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to S. Chatmon whose telephone number is (703) 557-6098.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 557-3321.

S. CHATMON:ilm
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6-27-87

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SAXFIELD CHATMON
PRIMARY EXAMINER
GROUP 266